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I am currently a member of the STAR collaboration at RHIC and have been so since 1996. I work at Yale and am, therefore, a frequent visitor to BNL.

Since I am not a US citizen, I am also more than familiar with the bureaucracy involved with getting permission to enter the Laboratory.

While this paperwork can no longer be avoided - and BNL and the RHIC & AGS Users' Center have worked hard to make the process as painless as possible - the UEC needs to maintain its efforts to see that the time spent on this task is as minimal and simple as possible.

Another issue that I believe the UEC should continue working with BNL management on is making life onsite at BNL as comfortable as possible after hours. Many of the students who visit BNL to do experiments are there without transport. Ensuring that they can survive on something other than vending machine food and that they can get to their experiments even late at night is important. We should aim to create as pleasant a working environment so visitors will come again.